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main features. The colonies are also described, and a chapter is given to the military organization, the defence of the frontiers, and the routes leading to them.

Round the World Geographical Readers. Europe. By W. Vere Mingard. 295 pp., Illustrations and Maps. T. C. & E. C. Jack, London, [undated]. (Price, 1s. 6d.)

Emphasizes the chief geographical features of each country, and then simply describes the industries and most important towns. The plan of the book and its literary execution are to be commended for young readers. But the two introductory paragraphs are really unfortunate. The author says that while America contains loftier mountains, longer rivers, and larger lakes, yet it cannot compare with Europe in importance. Then he sets forth the reason why:

The influence of mountains, rivers, coast-line, climate, character of the soil and many other natural conditions cannot be set aside; but far before these are the habits, skill and enterprise of the people who inhabit the country. Of what avail are fine bays, fertile soil, precious minerals and other advantages to men who do not know how to use them?

Europeans usually credit us with knowing how to use the natural advantages we possess.

Between Capetown and Loanda. A Record of Two Journeys in South West Africa. By Alan G. S. Gibson. xvi and 203 pp., 20 Illustrations, Appendix and Map. Wells, Gardner, Darton & Co., Ltd., London, 1905. (Price, 3s. 6d.)

The book has some geographical value for the glimpses it gives of development and conditions of settlement in southwest Africa, from the sandy plains of Cape Colony to Humpata, the chief Boer settlement in southern Angola, and at the three important ports of that Portuguese colony. Bishop Gibson's chief purposes were to visit the scattered families belonging to the English Church and to look for missionary opportunities among the native races; and most of his book is given to these topics. The first journey was made in 1901 and the second in the following year. He says that the Cape Mounted Police are now using camels for patrolling in the sand country of Cape Colony. He was much interested in comparing the language of the Ovaherero (who after his visit waged a long and desperate war with the Germans in German South West Africa) with those spoken by the Kafir tribes in the east of Cape Colony. He found that some words in their various languages are almost the same, and he suggests that any one who really masters any Bantu language may, without great difficulty, acquire any other of the same family. Windhoek, the capital of German South West Africa, owes its origin to the springs that fertilize the surrounding country, and he found it attractive with its hills, trees, pretty gardens, and good buildings. Humpata is the centre of the Boer life in southern Angola, and is the outcome of the famous trek of Transvaal Boers in 1875-1880. About 1,000 Boers are now living on this Huilla plateau, some 6,000 feet above the sea, where they raise fine field crops and fruit and have abundant pasturage. The two great drawbacks are the lack of a market and the diseases which affect cattle and horses.

By-Paths in the Balkans. By W. V. Herbert. xiii and 269 pp., Glossary and Index. Chapman & Hall, Ltd., London, 1906. (Price, 10s. 6d.)

A collection of impressions and incidents during the author's sixteen months' journey in Balkan countries in 1903-5. His travels were chiefly in Bulgaria, Rumania, and Servia, though he spent some time in adjacent lands. He was